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Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States

Draft resolution: Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda and Sao Tome and Principe

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/22 of 10 November 2000, 55/161 of 12 December 2000, 56/39 of 7 December 2001 and 57/40 of 23 January 2003 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States,

Bearing in mind the treaty establishing the Economic Community of Central African States, by which the Central African countries have agreed to work for the economic development of their subregion, to promote economic cooperation and to establish a Common Market of Central Africa,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted on 8 September 2000 by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit of the United Nations,[1] and especially chapter VII thereof,

Noting that, at the ninth regular session of the Economic Community of Central African States, held at Malabo on 24 June 1999, the heads of State and Government of the member States decided to resume the activities of the Community, in particular by incorporating a collective security component, and by providing it with sufficient financial and human resources to enable it to become a real tool for the integration of their economies and to foster the development of cooperation between their peoples, with the ultimate aim of making it one of the five pillars of the African community and of helping Central Africa to meet the challenges of globalization,

[1] See resolution 55/2.

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Bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[2]

Welcoming the establishment of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa with a view to creating a climate of peace and security in the subregion and strengthening the rule of law essential to its development,

Welcoming also the efforts made by the Central African States, both on their own initiative and with the support of the international community, to focus on the difficulties afflicting this key region of Africa,

Noting the understanding of the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States regarding their undertaking to strengthen arrangements for cooperation within the Community,

Noting with deep concern that despite its enormous potential which could make it one of the poles of development of the continent, Central Africa has yet to achieve the stability that would enable it to utilize its resources to the maximum benefit of its population in an equitable manner,

Welcoming the contribution made by the United Nations system to the efforts made at the national and subregional levels with a view to promoting the process of democratization, recovery and development in Central Africa,

Welcoming also the public meeting of the Security Council on 22 October 2002 devoted to strengthening cooperation between the United Nations system and the Central African region,[3]

Recognizing the role that the private sector can play in the socio-economic development of those countries and their integration into the world economy, and stressing the importance of fostering a favourable environment for private investment and entrepreneurship,[4]

Aware of the opportunities and challenges which globalization and liberalization can create for the economies of the countries of the subregion,

Noting with satisfaction that, as a result of the positive efforts of regional and subregional organizations, the subregion is gradually emerging from the conflicts that affect it, which offers an opportunity to build peace that must be seized by all parties and requires the mobilization of significant funds and increased resources to support demobilization, disarmament and reintegration programmes,

Welcoming the achievements of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa,

Noting the positive measures taken by the Economic Community of Central African States to combat the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS),

Noting also the important contribution of women in the development process,

Emphasizing the urgency of reaching an appropriate solution to the problem of refugees and internally displaced persons in Central Africa,

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[2] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[3] See S/PV.4630.

[4] A/59/243

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States;[5]

2. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to support the role of the subregional institutions, in particular his decision to dispatch, in June 2003, at the request of the Security Council,[6] a multidisciplinary assessment mission to the Central African subregion with the task of implementing a global, holistic approach to the problems of peace, security and development in the subregion;[7]

3. *Also welcomes* the efforts of States Members of the United Nations and United Nations organs, organizations and agencies which have maintained or strengthened their cooperation with the Economic Community of Central African States or have begun to cooperate with it with a view to achieving peace, security and development;

4. *Invites* the States Members of the United Nations and United Nations organs, organizations and agencies which have not yet established contact or relations with the Economic Community of Central African States to consider doing so in order to help the Community strengthen its capacities in the area of the maintenance of peace and security and reconstruction;

5. *Commends* the international community for the financial, technical and material support given to the Economic Community of Central African States;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of close cooperation between the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and the Economic Community of Central African States;

7. *Welcomes* the reforms undertaken by the Economic Community of Central African States, including the execution of its programme of action, in order to be better able to tackle the problems of cooperation and regional integration;

8. *Urges* all Member States and the international community to contribute to the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States to achieve economic integration and development, promote democracy and human rights and consolidate peace and security in Central Africa and to implement the goals, targets and commitments of the United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] in particular, to strengthen the role of women in the development process;

9. *Urges* the international community and the United Nations agencies to continue to provide those countries of the Economic Community of Central African States in which a process of national reconstruction is taking place with appropriate assistance to consolidate their efforts towards democratization and the consolidation of the rule of law and to support their national development programmes;

10. *Invites* the United Nations and the international community to coordinate their efforts to assist the Central African States in establishing demobilization, disarmament and reintegration programmes;

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[5] A/59/303, sect. VI.

[6] S/PRST/2002/31.

[7] See S/2003/653.

11. *Declares itself convinced* of the importance to conflict resolution of the implementation of global, integrated and concerted strategies on questions relating to peace, security and development, and aware of the value of international cooperation and efforts to restore and maintain peace, and emphasizes that the international community should continue to help those countries which receive refugees to meet the resulting economic, social, humanitarian and environmental challenges;

12. *Urges* the United Nations and the international community as a whole to help to strengthen the means existing in the region to ensure that the Economic Community of Central African States has the necessary capacity with regard to prevention, monitoring, early warning and peacekeeping operations;

13. *Encourages* the countries of the Economic Community of Central African States to implement policies that promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development, including by promoting competition, regulatory reform, respect for property rights and expeditious contract enforcement;

14. *Stresses* the need to focus international assistance to countries of the Economic Community of Central African States in the areas of socio-economic growth and sustainable development, implementation of market-oriented reforms and meeting of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and encourages the countries of the Economic Community of Central African States to improve governance and institutional capabilities in order to use aid more effectively;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to enhance contacts with the Economic Community of Central African States with a view to strengthening cooperation between the United Nations system and the Community;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.